GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3038
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2009
IMPORT POLICY FOR SUGAR
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding current import policy for raw sugar;

(b) whether the Government has received any reports/feedback on the viability of the import policy from the industry;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken in this regard to benefit the consumers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (d): Raw sugar classified under Exim Code No. 1701 of ITC(HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items is freely importable. However, all sugar import contracts are required to be compulsorily registered with the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). To augment availability of sugar, a number of steps have been taken by the Government as indicated in Annexure-I.

ANNEXURE-I

Steps taken to augment availability of sugar in 2008-09 sugar season

The following steps have been taken to augment availability of sugar:

(i) Import of raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme by sugar mills allowed at zero duty upto 30.9.2009 (notified on 17.02.2009 and 02.03.2009);

(ii) Import of raw sugar at zero duty by sugar mills under Open General License (OGL) allowed upto 01.08.2009 (notified on 17.4.2009);

(iii) Levy obligation in respect of sugar produced from all imported raw sugar and imported white/refined sugar has been removed;

(iv) Accelerated releases have been allowed in respect of sugar processed out of imported raw sugar which can be sold within three months of its processing;

(v) Import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED upto 1 million tons allowed under OGL at zero duty upto 01.08.2009 (notified on 17.4.2009);

(vi) Imported white/refined sugar has been kept free from the regulated release mechanism applicable on domestic sugar.